Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 09654 291608Z ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4510 INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

SECRETTEL AVIV 9654

EXDIS (HANDLE AS NODIS)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L)

SUBJ: ATHERTON MEETING WITH BEGIN - JULY 27

REF.: JERUSALEM 2049

- 1. I HAVE REVIEWED MY NOTES FROM THE ATHERTON MEETING WITH BEGIN AND OFFER THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS TO THE REFTEL.
- 2. AT THE END OF PARAGRAPH FIVE THE PRIME MINISTER
 DID COMMENT THAT ISRAEL WOULD CONSIDER A DEAL CONCERNING
 EL ARISH. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO MY NOTES HE WENT
 ON TO SAY HE WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE A PURELY HYPOTHETICAL
 EXAMPLE OF THE PARTIAL AGREEMENTS HE HAD IN MIND. IF
 SADAT WANTED CONTROL OF EL ARISH AND SANTA CATERINA,
 THAT WAS A POSSIBILITY. BUT THERE HAD TO BE SOME QUID
 PRO QUO, PERHAPS THAT ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN RAFAH COULD
 STAY. BEGIN SAID THAT WAS ONE EXAMPLE OF A TRADE,
 BUT HE IMPLIED HE WOULD CONSIDER OTHER QUID PRO
 QUOS AS WELL.
- 3. IN ADDITION TO COMMENTS IN PARAGRAPH 18 ON WHERE AUTHORITY FOR NEW REGIME WOULD DERIVE FROM, BEGIN WENT SECRET

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ON TO SUGGEST THAT AN AGREEMENT AMONG THE THREE PARTIES COULD PROVODE A SECOND SOURCE OF AUTHORITY FOR THE NEW REGIME. HE DID NOT IGNORE THIS POSSIBILITY NOR EXCLUDE IT. HE SIMPLY SAID THAT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, AUTHORITY SHOULD DEVOLVE FROM THE MILITARY GOVERNOR SO THAT AUTONOMY COULD BEGIN AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. IN ADDITION, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT BEGIN DID NOT REALLY REJECT THE "END OF OCCUPATION" CONCEPT OR APPROACH WE HAVE BEEN RECENTLY TALKING ABOUT. IT WAS THE WORD ITSELF THAT SET HIM OFF, NOT THE IDEA WHICH LIES BEHIND IT.

5. FINALLY, DATE IN PARAGRAPH 19 SHOULD READ MARCH 30 REPEAT MARCH 30. LEWIS

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